Shannon Cronin / Jinny Hall TEED 521 / March 2011

**Community Resource Report: The Washington Park Arboretum**

Within the 230-acre Washington Park Arboretum, The University of Washington Botanical Gardens and the Japanese Garden are wonderful community resources. Teachers can draw on these resources as part of their science curriculum as well as to supplement learning in other subjects.

The Botanical Gardens are open daily from dawn to dusk (free of charge), and they offer a variety of programs for students. The UW Botanical Gardens are a joint project of the University of Washington and the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation. The Japanese garden is open for about nine months of the year; hours and fees are dependent on weather and special occasions. TheJapanese Garden is managed and maintained by the City of Seattle.

**Programs at the UW Botanical Gardens**

<http://depts.washington.edu/uwbg/gardens/wpa.shtml>

**Specific field trips** (aligned with state standards) at these grade levels:

K-3: Plants 101, Wetlands 101 and Forests 101

3-6: Plants, Wetlands and Forests 201, Native Plants and People, Race Around the Rim

7-10: Sex and Survival

**Registration Details:**

**When:** 10am & 12pm M - F

**How many: varies, but usually:** 10 - 75 students **Cost:** $6 (Register online.)

For more information, e-mail uwbgeduc@u.washington.edu or call 206-543-8801

**Japanese Garden**

<http://www.seattle.gov/parks/parkspaces/japanesegarden.htm>

**Class activity:** Classes can arrange a visit two weeks in advance

**When:** Dependent upon reservation (garden opens at 10 am)

**How many: varies Cost:** $12 for a group of up to 24 students; $6 for each additional student;

adult chaperones must be present and their admission costs $6 per person.

Fees and tours are established by The Japanese Garden Advisory Council.

Call (206) 684-4725 for more information.

**Specific class ideas beyond the established science programs:**

* Japanese language classes could visit the Japanese garden (or view the pdf in class of plant names in English and Japanese).
* Social studies classes could visit the Pacific Connections garden (within the Botanical Gardens).
* 4th grade social studies classes could listen to an audio file before, after or in lieu of a visit (e.g. about the legend of the cedars).
* Art classes could look at images from the Botanical gardens (this is a terrific website with a large number of pictures); photography classes could take seasonal pictures in the Japanese garden.
* Students could call the plant answer line for specific questions about a tree, plant or flower.
* Students could rent Explorer Packs for self-guided tours.